

Tibet's Stolen Child

Filmmaker biographies

Garthwait, Robin (1957-), American documentary film producer/director/writer, whose films intensely reflect her concern for human rights. Her work is characterized by the complex interweaving of stories, strong visual layering and emotionally gripping themes. Garthwait's own interest in spiritual exploration and growth are a motivating force throughout her work.

Garthwait graduated from the University of Washington's Theatre Arts program in 1979. She began her career working as a repertory actor in a small theatre in Hawaii. This was followed by working on IMAX films and national commercials. Her work in the theatre heavily influenced her use of actors, images and words as she began producing films for Fortune 100 companies. She established Garthwait & Griffin Films in 1993 with husband/partner Dan Griffin.

Since her introduction to the Dalai Lama in 1994, Garthwait centered her work on documentaries, music videos and Public service announcements that support the Tibetan peoples right to self-determination.

Working with some of the top actors in Hollywood and international recording artists (Harrison Ford, Julia Roberts, Richard Gere, Patrick Stewart, Sting, Goldie Hawn, Alanis Morissette, Adam Yauch) Garthwait's projects focus on education and change. Working in a wide range of genres, her goal is to inspire viewers to take positive action in the world.

Her first documentary *Missing in Tibet* (1997) about a Tibetan Fulbright scholar sentenced to 18 years in Chinese prison, sparked an international outcry on his behalf. From around the world governments, human rights groups and thousands of individuals continue to work for Ngawang Choephel's release.

Garthwait's work has earned many awards: the Golden Apple Award, Monitor Awards, Joey Award, International Humanitarian Awards, JVC Video Award, ITVA Golden Reel, Cindy Award, Barcelona Gava Environmental Film Festival Festival Award, The Telluride Mountain Film Festival Jury Award, Addy Gold Award and an Emmy Nomination.

Tibet's Stolen Child - Producer/Camera

Dan Griffin (1957-) American filmmaker, writer, photographer. Griffin began his career in 1974 as a still photographer. Focusing primarily on landscapes Griffin spent his time waiting for the illusive perfect light. These lessons in patience were rewarded with spectacular images and the development of a strong visual sense. His work was shown in galleries, published in magazines and used by commercial clients.

Later, moving into photojournalism, Griffin began developing his skills as a writer. He enhanced his sense of the visual shooting in black & white, learning to tell a story with one picture.

Griffin gradually transitioned from still photography to film/video production. There he tied together his visual sense, writing skills and ability to simplify complex topics to create compelling short films. He traveled extensively throughout the world producing, directing, writing and shooting for major technology companies. Griffin's approach continued to develop as he created cutting edge programs for cutting edge companies. The outcome of his efforts was a successful business serving many Fortune 100 clients.

In 1994 Griffin expanded his business and, together with his wife Robin Garthwait, began creating documentaries focused on human rights and the issue of Tibet. Garthwait & Griffin Films created a series of award winning long and short films that have been broadcast internationally, shown in film festivals worldwide and use as tools for human rights movements.

Griffin's sense of the visual, ability to turn the word and wonderful sense of humor continue to evolve making him one of the most multifaceted individuals in the world of film and video today.